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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/830,077	04/23/2004	Gregorio M. Belloso		7691

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EXAMINER

PHAM, TOAN NGOC

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2632

DATE MAILED: 01/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/830,077	Applicant(s) BELLOSO, GREGORIO M.	
	Examiner Toan N. Pham	Art Unit 2632	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/23/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bauer et al. (US 6,672,745) in view of Schofield et al. (US 6,222,447).

Regarding claim 1: Bauer et al. discloses a rear view monitoring system for a motor vehicle having a longitudinal center axis and passenger compartment symmetrically centered upon said axis and bounded by front and rear, left side and right side portions of the vehicle, a front windshield, a roof, and upwardly directed roof-supporting pillars (606, 608) (Fig. 16), said monitoring system comprising: a) first and second rear view side video assemblies (26b, 26c) installable on opposite sides of the front portion of said vehicle and positioned and configured to produce images of rearward areas contiguous to the left and right sides of the vehicle, respectively, b) a third video assembly (26a) installable upon the rear of said vehicle and configured to produce a image of an area behind said vehicle, and c) first, second and third monitor screens 32l, 32c, 32r) of substantially rectangular contour located within said compartment and separately interactive with said first, second and third video assemblies (26a-c), respectively, to provide visually observable pictures corresponding to said images, said first and second screens being positioned adjacent pillars on the

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same side of the compartment as the associated video assemblies, and said third screen being centered high upon said front windshield (Figs. 1, 16; col. 4, lines 18-41; col. 10, lines 1-52; col. 14, lines 57-67; col. 15, lines 1-44). Bauer et al. does not disclose the producing of a mirror image. Schofield et al. disclose a rearview vision system includes image capture devices (14, 16) and reverse the image, which provides the mirror image (col. 7, lines 28-55). At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to utilize the mirror image effect to provide the driver a true side of the captured images.

Regarding claim 2: Schofield et al. disclose a rearview vision system includes image capture devices (14, 16) and reverse the image, which provides the mirror image (col. 7, lines 28-55).

Regarding claims 3-4: Schofield et al. disclose the reverse image technique includes the conventional techniques (col. 5, lines 50-60); thus, any other conventional technique is merely a matter of design choice.

Regarding claim 5: Schofield et al. discloses the pictures on the monitor screens are of substantially equal magnification (Fig. 3).

Regarding claim 6: Schofield et al. discloses the pictures on the first and second screens partially and adjustably overlap the picture on the third screen (Fig. 3; col. 5, line 50-col. 6, line 14).

Regarding claim 7: Schofield et al. disclose the overlapping of the pictures (col. 5, line 50-col. 6, line 14). Schofield et al. does not disclose the overlapping between 5

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and 20%; however, it is merely a matter of design choice to specify a certain overlapping percentage.

Regarding claim 8: Neither Bauer et al. nor Schofield et al. disclose the adjustable zoom construction of the camera; however, it is obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the zoom feature is known and used in the art of camera technology.

Regarding claims 9 and 10: Bauer et al. discloses the front portion of said vehicle terminates forwardly in a front bumper, and further comprises oppositely paired fenders (Fig. 4).

Regarding claim 11: Schofield et al. discloses the locations of said first and second video assemblies are selected such that the requisite viewing angles to properly cover areas contiguous to the sides of the vehicle match the viewing angle of said third video assembly, thereby causing said screens to show pictures of equal magnification (col. 4, line 59-col. 5, line 4).

Regarding claim 12: Neither Bauer et al. nor Schofield et al. disclose the video assemblies located at sites between 65% and 80%; thus, it is merely a matter of design choice to locate the video assemblies at a certain percentage of the distance from the windshield to the bumper for capturing the required images.

Regarding claim 13: Schofield et al. disclose the reverse image technique includes the conventional techniques (col. 5, lines 50-60); thus, any other conventional technique is merely a matter of design choice.

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Regarding claim 14: Schofield et al. discloses the different view angles (col. 4, line 59-col. 5, line 4); thus, it is merely a matter of design choice to specify other range of angles.

Regarding claim 15: Bauer et al. discloses the image device is incorporated in the lamp assemblies of the vehicle (Fig. 4); therefore, it merely protrudes any more than two inches from the vehicle.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The prior art of Bauer et al. (US 6,509,832), Schofield et al. (US 5,949,331), and Schofield et al. (US 6,891,563) are cited to show a variety of vehicle front and rear vision systems.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Toan N. Pham whose telephone number is (571) 272-2967. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel J. Wu can be reached on (571) 272-2964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

January 5, 2006

TOAN N. PHAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Toan N. Pham', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.